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Instructional Plans for Teachers of Vocational Agriculture Wheat Series Unit Number 4

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Adjustment Administration
Division of Information

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Education, Division of Vocational Education

Agricultural Education Service

Cooperating

UNIT NUMBER 4

Plans for presenting information dealing with the price trends of wheat.

INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVE

To develop in farmers the ability to interpret the trend of prices for wheat during the past few years as a particular aid in analysing the present economic situation relative to wheat.

Note: The previous material has indicated price relationships to a certain extent, but at this point the teacher needs to turn the attention of the group to the specific facts as to the trend of wheat prices. The purpose of this is to prepare for the fundamental question of what factors are at work in causing the trends in prices. In other words, the teacher is confronted with the problem of guiding his students through a cause and effect situation. Prices are an effect of certain causative factors. It seems reasonable to examine in detail the price situation and the trends and then attempt to explain by analysing the contributing factors.

MATERIALS AND SOURCES

- 1. Current issue of "The Agricultural Situation." Refer to table entitled "Prices of Farm Products" and to "General Trend of prices and Purchasing Power."
- II. Current issue of "Crops and Markets." Refer to table entitled "Average Prices Received by Farmers for Farm Products."
- III. Average prices received by farmers mimeographed monthly report, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U.S.D.A. Teachers may secure this publication by asking to be put on the mailing list.

IV. Accompanying tables

- 1. Table I Relative Farm Prices of Wheat by Months 1925 to date.
- 2. Table II Wheat Average Price per Bushel Received by Producers, United States, 1929-30 To Date.
- 3. Table III Corn Estimated average price per bushel received by producers in the United States, January 15, 1933, to date.
- 4. Table IV Hogs Estimated average price per 100 pounds received by producers in the United States, January 15, 1933, to date.
- 5. Tables V-XIX Inclusive Tables for selected states presenting prices of wheat.

TABLE I

Relative Farm Prices of Wheat in United States by Months 1925 To Date (Index Numbers)

(August 1909 - July 1914 = 100)

YEAR	JAN-	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	<u>AUG</u> .	SEPT.	OCT.	MOA.	DEC.	YEAR
1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 1932 1933	183 179 138 130 111 122 67 50	192 176 139 131 118 115 66 50	186 165 137 138 118 104 66 50	159 161 133 146 113 106 67 49	169 161 139 163 102 99 68 48 67	173 157 147 149 98 99 59 42 66	159 144 144 134 116 80 41 40 98	170 142 140 108 125 84 40 44 85	163 133 135 107 127 80 40 42 80	154 137 129 112 126 74 41 39 72	168 140 126 110 117 68 57 37 80	174 139 129 111 122 69 50 36 76	171 153 136 128 116 92 55 44 66
1934 1935	79	81	80	78	79	89	89	101	104	100	100		

SOURCES: Tables 16 and 19 from "Index Numbers of Prices Received by Farmers for Farm Products" U.S.D.A. Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

This table may be kept up to date by securing the current price of wheat from "The Agricultural Situation." Divide the price of wheat for the current month by 88.4 the average price of wheat in cents per bushel during the base period, and multiply by 100.

Any of the index figures may be converted into prices in cents per bushel by multiplying the index number by .884.

Wheat: Average Price per Bushel Received by Producers United States, 1929-30 To DAte

WEIGHTED AVERAGE	Conts	104.9 58.1 38.6
JUNE 15	Conts	2007 2007 2007 2007 2007 2007 2007
MAY 15	Conts	767.00 7.00 7.00 7.00 7.00 7.00
APP.	Conts	\$ 44.05.93 \$ 4.05.05 \$ 4.05.05
MARCH 15	Conts	24440 2440 2440
FEB	Conts	101.3 58.7 44.0 72.3 72.3
JAM.	Conts (4 4 4 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5
DEC.	Conts	21.5
10V.	Contra	4.000 6.000 7.000
15	Conts	1 WW0 8 1 W0 1 W 8
SEPT.	Conts	112277777777777777777777777777777777777
AUG.	Conts (2010 2010 2010 2010 2010 2010 2010 2010
JULY	Conts	100 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00
YEAR		1989-1989-1989-1989-1989-1989-1989-1989

Data taken from Table 19, Page 402, 1934 Yearbook of Agriculture. SOURCES:

Data for crop years 1909-10 to date may be obtained from Table 21, Page 600, 1931 Yearbook of Agriculture.

This table may be kept up to date by referring to the current issue of "The Agricultural Situation" in which a table is printed entitled "Prices of Farm Products."

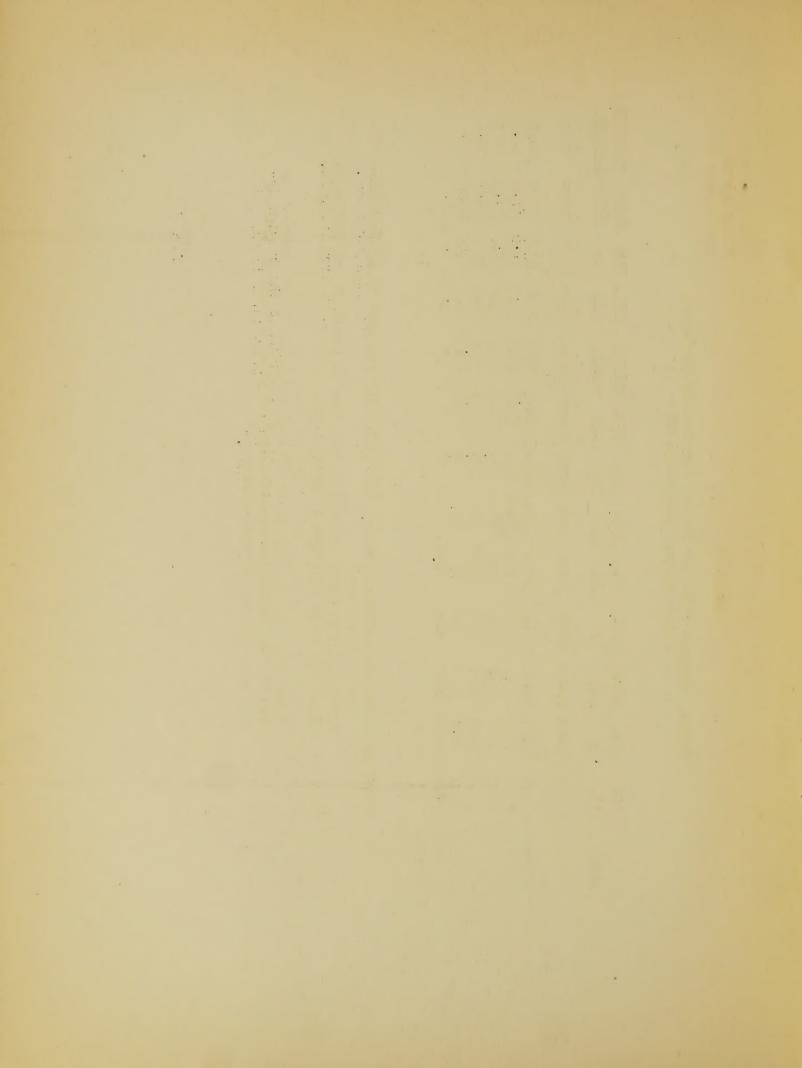


TABLE III

Estimated average price per bushel, received by producers in the United States, January 15, 1933 to date.

Weighted Average	Cents
Sept.	Cents 46.5 77.4
Aug.	Cents 48.8 72.2
July 15	Cents 55.4 59.2
June 15	Cents 40.2 56.0
May.	Cents 38.9 48.6
Apr. 15.	Cents 28.2 47.1
Mar.	Cents 20.6 47.1
Feb.	Cents 19.4 45.6
Jan.	Cents 19.1 43.9
Dec.	Cents
Nov.	Sents Cents Cents 38.8 40.6 42.0 76.7 75.7
0ct.	S8.8 76.7
Year beginning Oct.	1932-33 1933-34 1934-35

Prices previous to January 15, 1933 may be secured from 1933 Yearbook of Agriculture, Page 438, Table 48. Prices provious to those furnished in this table may be secured from 1931 Yearbook of Agriculture, Page 625, Table 63.

The current price may be obtained from a table entitled "Frices of Farm Products" published each month in the "Agricultural Situation."

More complete but not quite as up to date information may be obtained by referring to "Crops and Markets". Each month tables are printed showing average prices received by farmors. By keeping the above table up to date information as to corn prices by months since 1909 is made available.

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producors Estimated avorage price per 100 pounds received by in the United States, January 15, 1933 to date. Hogs:

The state of the s	Weighted	Dol- lars	
	Sept.	Dol- lars	3.73
	Aug.	Dol- lars	3.79
	July 15	Dol-	3.98
	June 15	Dol- lars	3.96
	May 15	Dol- lars	3.88
	Apr.	Dol- lars	3.21
	Mar.	Dol- lars	22.50
	Fob.	Dol- lars	2.94
		Dol- lars	2.68
	Nov. Dec.	Dol- lars	2.92
	Nov.	Dol-	4.17 3.70 5.20 5.04
	0ct.	Dol-	4.17
	Year Beginning Oct.	100000	1932-33 1933-34 1934-35

Page 605, Table 328. Prices previous to those furnished in this table may be secured from 1931 Yearbook Prices previous to January 15, 1933 may be secured from 1933 Yearbook of Agriculture of Agriculture, Page 851, Table 383.

The current price may be obtained from a table entitled "Frices of Farm Products" published each month in "The Agricultural Situation." More complete, but not quite as up to date, information may be obtained by referring to "Cross and Warkets." Each month tables are printed showing average prices received by farmers. By keeping the above table up to date information as to hog prices by months since 1901 is made available.

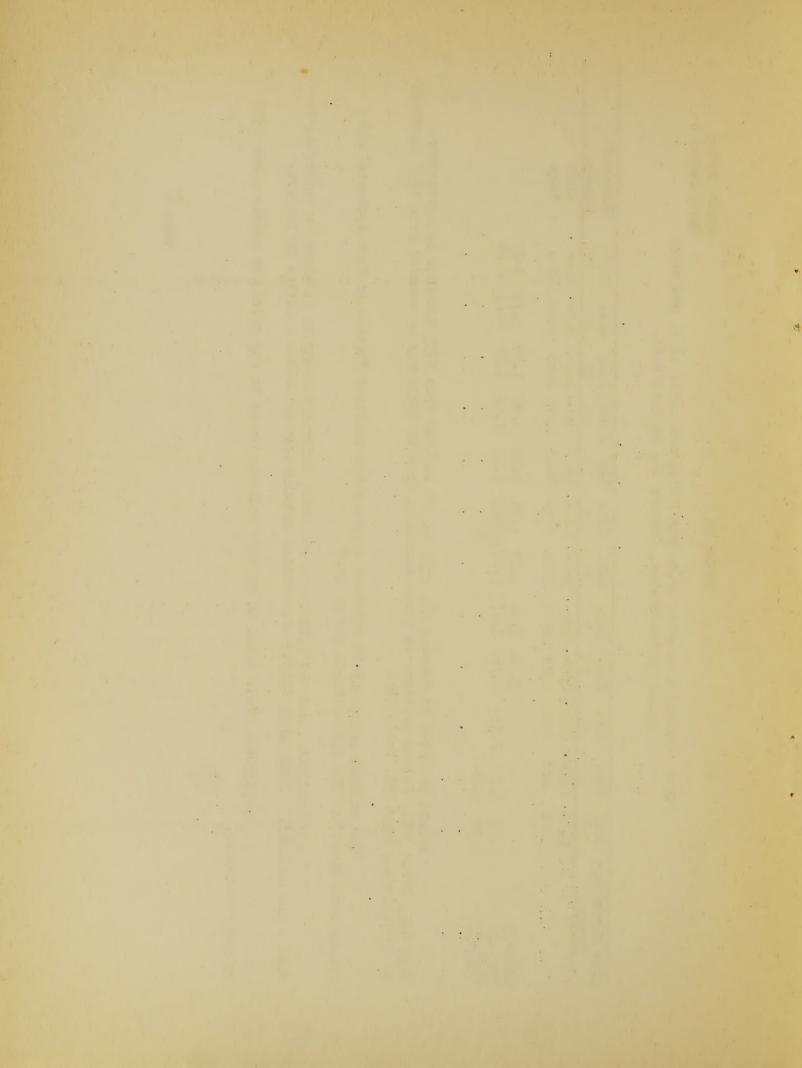


TABLE V

OHIO

Average Price of Wheat Received by Producers by Months - Jan. 15, 1930 To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG.	SEPT,	OCT. 15	NOV.	DEC.	JAN. 15	FEB. <u>15</u>	MARCH 15	APRIL 15	MAY 15	JUNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Conts	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930		(, ,		(119	112	105	105	98	99
1930-	31 80	84	83	78	75	77	75	73	73	73	73	6 7
1931-	32 43	41	41	41	56	50	50	49	50	47	47	12
1932-	33 38	-16	46	11	41	42	-13	11	-15	58	76	71
1933-	34 99	82	78	70	80	78	80	83	83	80	79	89
1934- 1935-	35 85 36	93	96	91								

SOURCES: Table compiled from data taken from "Crops and Markets"



TABLE VI

INPIANA

Average Price of Wheat Received by Producers
By Months - January 15, 1930 To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT - 15	NOV.	DEC.	JAN. 15	FEB · 15	MARCH 15	APRIL 15	MAY JU	UNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930							116	109	100	102	95	96
1930-3	1 75	81.	78	74	71	71	69	68	66	66	57	61
1931-3	· .	37	37	37	51	44	40	44	46	44	43	39
1932-3		43	43	39	38	38	40	40	43	55	72	67
1933-3		79	76	67	79	75	78	81	80	77	76	85
1934-3 1935-3		91	93	89								

SOURCES: Table compiled from data taken from "Crops and Markets"

TABLE VII

Illinois

Average Price of Wheat Received by Producers by Months - January 15, 1930 To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG.	SEPT.	0CT · 15	NOV.	DEC - 15	JAN •	FEB.	MARCH 15	APRIL 15	MAY 15	JUNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Certa
1930 1930-31 1931-32 1932-33	39 37	80 37 41 80	79 ′ 37 41 74	73 37 39 70	68 49 37	68 44 36	115 68 44 38	108 67 44 38	100 66 45 40	101 67 46 49	95 66 43 67	95 56 40 65
1934-35 1935-36	82	93	95	91	/ (75	76	79	78	75	75	86

SOURCES: Table Compiled From Data taken from "Crops and Markets"

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TABLE VIII

MINNESOTA

Average Price of Wheat Received by Producers by Months - Jamuary 15, 1930 to Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG. 15	SEPT.	OCT. 15	NOV - 15	DEC.	JAN . 15	FEB. <u>15</u>	MARCH 15	APRIL 15	MAY 6	JUNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930				-			109	104	91	91	85	86
1930-31	73	76	70	65	57	61	59	59	59	61	62	54
1931-32	48	47	52	48	58	5 5	55	56	55	53	49	43
1932-33	38	41	41	37	36	33	35	34	36	46	59	60
1933-34	95	78	74	63	74	68	73	75	74	72	74	87
1934-35	83	103	106	102								
1935-36												

SOURCES: Table compiled from data taken from "Crops and Markets"



TABLE IX

MISSOURI

Average Price of Wheat Received by Producers by Months - January 15, 1930 To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG. 15	SEPT.	OCT - 15	NOV.	DEC.	JAN . 15	FEB · 15	MARCH 15	APRII	MAY 15	JUNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930 1930-31 1931-32 1932-33 1933-34 1934-35	38 89 79	83 38 39 80 89	83 39 40 73 95	81 41 38 72 92	76 49 36 74	73 45 36 72	114 70 43 36 74	111 68 43 37 77	100 68 44 39 75	102 68 43 47 73	97 66 42 63 73	96 63 41 64 83

SOURCES: Table compiled from date taken from "Crops and Markets"



TABLE X

NORTH DAKOTA

Average Price of Wheat Received by Producers by Months - January 15, 1930 To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG.	SEPT	OCT. 15	NOV - 15	DEC - 15	JAN - 15	FEB. <u>15</u>	MAR. 15	APRII	15 MAY	JUNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930	•						102	96	82	84	78,	79
1930-3	1 66	68	63	57	49	54	53	53	53	54	56	46
1931-3	2 40	39	46	44	58	50	51	53	53	50	46	37
1932-3	3 34	35	35	31	30	28	30	28	31	42	54	53
1933-3	4 89	72	70	59	68	62	65	68	67	66	69	81
1934-3 1935-3		99	104	98								

SOURCES; Table compiled from data taken from "Crops and Markets"

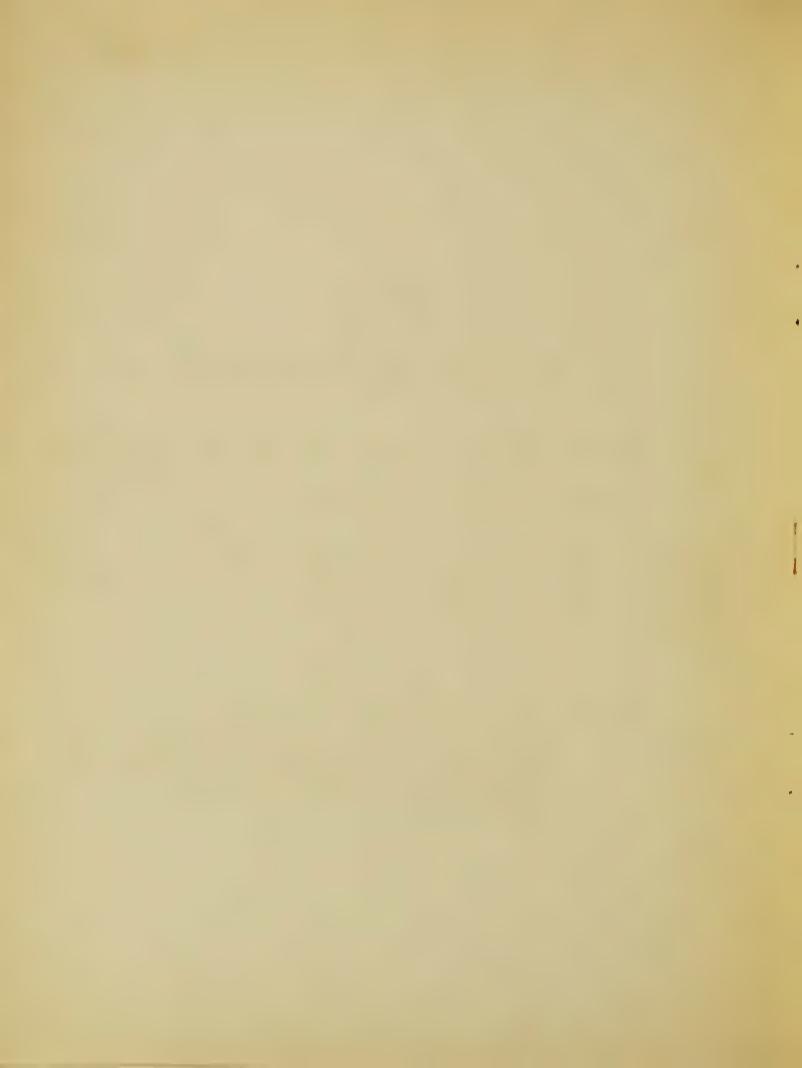


TABLE XI

SOUTH DAKOTA

Average Price of Wheat Received by Producers by Months - January 15, 1930 To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG.	SEPT- 15	OCT - 15	NOV - 15	DEC.	JAN - 15	TEB - 15	MAR. 15	APR. 15	MAY 15	JUNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930 1930-3 1931-3 1932-3 1933-3 1934-3 1935-3	2 37 3 29 4 88 5 80	65 39 33 69 95	59 42 33 64 99	56 41 29 56 94	46 54 28 66	51 48 26 61	99 49 49 28 64	93 49 49 26 67	80 49 49 28 65	82 50 46 40 64	76 53 42 53 67	76 43 36 54 80

SOURCES: Table compiled from data taken from "Crops and Markets"

TABLE XII

NEBRASKA

Average Price of Wheat Received by Producers By Months - January 15, 1930 To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG. 15	SEPT •	OCT. 15	NOV.	DEC .	JAN. 15	FEB.	MAR - 15	APR. 15	MAY 15	JUNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930							102	95	84	86	80	81
1930-3	31 63	67	63	58	51	54	54	54	54	5 5	56	44
1931-3	32 28	31	32	30	45	39	40	39	39	36	36	33
1932-3	33 28	32	31	29	28	27	29	28	31	40	56	56
1933-3	34 85	70	67	61	68	64	65	67	66	63	63	77
1934-3	35 78	90	94	89								
1935-3	36											

SOURCES: Table Compiled from Data taken from "Crops and Markets"



TABLE XIII

KANSAS

Average Frice of Wheat Received by Producers By Months - January 15, 1930 To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC,	JAN. 15	FEB. <u>15</u>	MAR. 15	APR. 15	MAY .	JUNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930 1930-31 1931-32 1932-33 1933-34 1934-35 1935-36	30 90 82	70 28 33 75 91	66 28 32 74 93	61 29 30 64 90	55 41 29 74	57 36 27 67	104 55 37 29 70	96 55 37 28 72	86 55 37 31 69	89 57 37 44 66	81 57 37 59 67	83 51 31 59 78

SOURCES; Table compiled from data taken from "Crops and Markets"

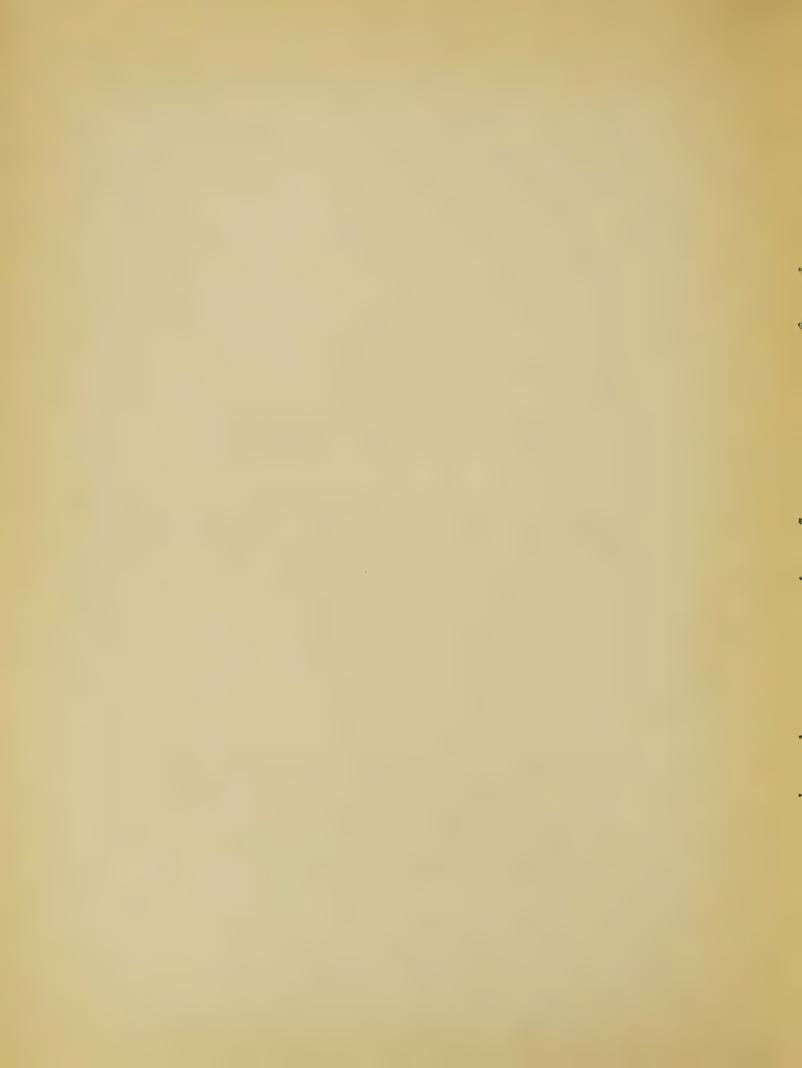


TABLE XIV

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Average Price of Wheat Received by Producers By Months, January 15, 1930. To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG. 15	SEPT	OCT. 15	NOV.	DEC.	JAN - 15	FEB. <u>15</u>	MAR. 15	APR,	MAY _15	JUNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930							104	97	88	89	85	8-1
1930-	31 65	71	69	66	58	60	55	56	56	56	57	4.1
1931-		29	29	29	45	37	37	37	37	35	35	29
1932-		32	31	30	28	28	29	29	31	43	58	59
1933-	34 89	75	73	66	73	67	68	72	69	65	65	74
1934-1 1935-1		89	93	89								

SOURCES: Table compiled from data taken from "Crops and Markets"



TABLE XV

TEXAS

Average Price of Wheat Teceived by Producers By Months - January 15, 1930, To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT - 15	NOV.	DEC - 15	JAN - 15	FEB.	MAR - 15	ΔPR • 15	MAY 15	JUNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930 1930-31 1931-32 1932-33 1933-34 1934-35	31 90 76	71 30 33 75 89	71 30 32 75 92	70 31 31 66 88	69 48 29 73	68 42 29 68	109 61 41 29 68	105 61 40 29 72	96 59 40 33 69	94 59 39 42 66	93 59 38 60 66	90 43 31 61 72

SOURCES: Table compiled from data taken from "Crops and Markets"



TABLE XVI

MONTANA

Average Price of Wheat Received by Producers By Months - January 15, 1930 To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG. 15	SEPT.	OCT - 15	NOV.	DEC.	JAN - 15	FEB.	MAR. 15	APR. 15	MAY 15	JUNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930 1930-3 1931-3 1932-3 1933-3 1934-3 1935-3	2 36 3 38 4 80 5 73	66 43 33 69 89	61 -15 35 60 91	55 47 29 46 87	48 58 27 60	50 57 25 56	99 46 57 28 58	93 47 56 28 62	82 46 58 28 61	82 48 56 37 61	75 51 56 50 62	77 41 47 52 74

SOURCES: Table compiled from data taken from "Crops and Markets."

TABLE XVII

IDAHO

Average Price of Wheat Received by Producers by Months - January 15, 1930 To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG. 15	SEPT.	OCT - 15	NOV.	DEC -	JAN. 15	FEB.	MAR. 1	APR. 1		JNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930							97	92	88	89	83	86
1930-31	68	67	58	55	52	19	-1-1	-12	-1-1	42	41	36
1931-32	32	30	33	3-1	51	-17	-18	-16	-16	-15	45	-10
1932-33	35	33	32	27	26	26	25	23	25	34	44	11
1933-34	61	59	54	-18	5-1	50	53	55	55	51	52	58
1934-35 1935-36	60	71	73	72								

SOURCES: Table compiled from data taken from "Crops and Markets."

TABLE XVIII

WASHINGTON

Average Prices of Wheat Received by Producers By Months - January 15, 1930 To Date

YEAR	JULY 15	AUG. 15	SEPT.	0CT. 15	NOV.	DEC • 15	JAN - 15	FEB. 15	MAR. 15	APR. 15	MAY 15	JUNE 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930 1930-3; 1931-3; 1932-3; 1933-3; 1934-3; 1935-3;	2 37 3 35 4 69 5 63	78 36 40 61 76	71 35 38 58 79	63 39 36 54 73	57 59 31 59	52 51 31 56	109 48 50 30 58	102 49 48 30 58	94 48 47 31 59	96 49 46 40 57	88 48 46 49 58	88 43 41 46 63

SOURCES: Table compiled from data taken from "Crops and Markets"



TABLE XIX

OREGON

Average Price of Wheat Received by Producers By Months - January 15, 1930 to Date

<u>Y3</u>	EAR	JULY 15	AUG. 15	SEPT.	00T. 15	NOV.	DEC:	JAN . 15	FEB - 15	MAR - 15	APR. 15	MAY 15	JUNE 15
	С	ents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
19	930							108	99	93	96	89	87
19	930-31	76	77	69	63	55	54	51	50	49	51	51	45
19	931-32	39	35	36	39	57	50	50	50	51	51	53	44
19	932-33	40	42	42	38	35	34	33	34	36	44	52	51
19	933-34	72	65	61	56	59	57	58	59	60	59	61	65
	934 <mark>-35</mark> 935-36		77	78	74								

SOURCES: Table compiled from data taken from "Crops and Markets"

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PROCEDURE AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The following are suggestions as to procedure for helping farmers to answer the question - What has been the trend of prices for wheat during the past few years?

- 1. From the current issue of "The Agricultural Situation" place upon the blackboard the prices for wheat and any other commodities the group may be interested in. Use the form as published in the table "Prices of Farm Products." This material may be used to give a general picture of trends in prices.
- 2. The trend of prices for wheat in the United States may be presented in greater detail by using Table I from Materials and Sources. Before the group assembles place upon the black-board the form of Table I without the index numbers, about as fillows:

When ready to present the data from this table copy in the index numbers. As the numbers are being copied pause to ask questions as to what the trend may be expected to be for the next month, etc.

Since these are index figures, have some of them read so that the farmers will be sure to understand their meaning.

Have the farmers determine what the prices are that the index numbers represent by following the directions accompanying the table. by having the farmers translate a few of the index numbers into prices a further understanding of index numbers should result.

When the index numbers are all recorded have the farmers examine the data and determine the answers to such questions as:

When was wheat highest in price?

When was wheat lowest in price?

What is the relative price of wheat at the present time?

Does the fact that the index number for wheat in November stands at 100 mean that the price of wheat is satisfactory in relation to what the farmer has to buy?

ANSWER: The index number of 100 for wheat means that the price of wheat is close to 88.4 cents per bushel. The index number of prices paid by farmers for commodities bought is 736. November, 1934.

 $\frac{88.4 \times 126}{100} = 111.4$ The parity price of

wheat is 111.4 for November, 1934. To be upon a fair exchange basis, therefore, wheat should be selling at 111.4 rather than 88.4 cents per bushel.

With the index numbers of wheat prices before the group, the prices of wheat may easily be compared with the general trend of prices and purchasing power by referring to the table entitled "General Trend of Prices and Purchasing Power" published each month in "The Agricultural Situation." Copy the index numbers for the current month upon the blackboard and use them in making comparisons.

After use has been made of the index numbers, data as to actual prices for wheat as found in Table II of Materials and Sources may be placed upon the blackboard. Prices for corn and hogs may also be used if it seems desirable.

The prices of wheat by states for certain states are presented in Tables V to XIX inclusive. Data from these tables may be of particular interest to the farmers in the specified states.

It may be assumed that the farmers will be interested in the trend of prices for wheat, and, therefore, the teacher should plan a means of providing each farmer with a table that indicates the general trend of prices. The following table has been prepared as an example using the State of Kansas as an example of the record for a specific State. Forms might be prepared which included everything but the index numbers and prices on the assumption that the data might mean more to the members of the group if they were to copy in the figures with the guidance of the teacher. Other means may be used in providing each farmer with the data as to prices in some tangible form.

(Suggested form of table to be prepared for use of farmers)

	P	RICES	OF W	R FOR HEAT PATES	PRI IN	TES	PRICES OF WHEAT IN KANSAS					
YEAR	JAH.	APR.	JULY	OCT.	JAN.	APR.	JULY	ocr.	JAN.	APR.	JULY	OCT.
1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935	122 67 50 37 79	106 67 49 51 78	80 41 40 98 89	74 41 39 72 100	Cts. 107.5 59.1 44.1 32.9 69.4	0ts. 93.4 59.2 43.1 44.8 68.7	35.6 86.9	Cts- 65.6 36.1 34.6 63.6 88.5	Cts. 104 55 37 29 70	Cts. 89 57 37 44 66	Cts. 64 28 30 90 82	Ots. 61 29 30 64 90

* Average price for period August 1909 - July 1914 - 88.4 cents per bushel = 100

Connection to succeeding unit. It may be assumed that the procedure suggested in this unit will result in the farmers' gaining a rather comprehensive understanding of prices and price trends. Make a connection to the next unit by introducing the following question:

What has caused the price of wheat to change or 1 stuate as it has during the past few years? In other words, what are the factors affecting the price of wheat?